

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

**MAY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
JUNE 1 GRAIN STOCKS
JUNE 1 CROP ACREAGE
PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS**

LOUISIANA LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during May totaled 1.3 million pounds, unchanged from April, but 13 percent below the previous year.

There were 1,600 head of **cattle** slaughtered during May, up 100 head from April, but 200 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 802 pounds, down 35 pounds from the previous month, but 48 pounds above May 1999. Total live weight at 1.26 million pounds was down 2 percent from April, and 9 percent below a year ago.

Calves slaughtered during May totaled 900 head, up 100 head from April, but 300 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 491 pounds, down 1 pound from April, but 6 pounds above a year ago. Total live weight at 441 thousand pounds was up 9 percent from April, but 22 percent below a year ago.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during May totaled 2,500 head, down 300 head from both April 2000 and May 1999. Average live weight was 211 pounds, up 14 pounds from April, and 7 pounds above the previous year. Total live weight was 536 thousand pounds, 3 percent below the previous month, and 5 percent below a year ago.

The total number of **sheep** slaughtered during May was 100 head, down 100 head from both April and the previous year. Live weight averaged 88 pounds, down 18 pounds from the previous month, and 2 pounds below the previous year.

UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in May, 8 percent higher than the 3.60 billion pounds produced in May 1999, and 3 percent higher than the previous record high for May set in 1996.

May 1999 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. May 2000 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Comparing May 2000 with May 1999

Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year, and equaled the previous record high for May set in 1996. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.18 million head, up 6 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,196 pounds.

Veal production totaled 19.0 million pounds, 13 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 92 thousand head, up 3 percent from May 1999. The average live weight was 29 pounds above last year, at 340 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.54 billion pounds, 9 percent higher than the previous year, and 1 percent higher than the previous record high for May set in 1995. Hog kill totaled 7.95 million head, 7 percent above 1999. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 263 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous record low for May set in 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 259 thousand head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, unchanged from May a year ago.

January-May red meat production was 18.9 billion pounds, 1 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was down 2 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 2 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

ITEM	LOUISIANA					UNITED STATES			
	April	May		January - May		May		January - May	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Number, thousand head					Number, thousand head			
Cattle	1.5	1.8	1.6	10.8	8.9	2,996.8	3,176.0	14,702.0	14,963.3
Calves	0.8	1.2	0.9	5.2	4.8	89.4	92.1	508.1	463.1
Hogs	2.8	2.8	2.5	16.6	15.6	7,438.9	7,945.4	41,548.2	40,174.2
Sheep & Lambs	0.2	0.2	0.1	1.4	1.5	270.2	259.4	1,571.7	1,523.2
	Total live weight, thousand pounds					Total live weight, thousand pounds			
Cattle	1,290	1,380	1,262	8,268	7,468	3,559,386	3,799,466	17,774,315	18,154,497
Calves	406	563	441	2,403	2,281	27,781	31,328	148,430	150,957
Hogs	555	563	536	3,578	3,315	1,929,425	2,087,451	10,768,127	10,529,372
Sheep & Lambs	19	15	12	144	145	36,433	34,980	212,764	209,197
	Average live weight, pounds					Average live weight, pounds			
Cattle	837	754	802	766	839	1,188	1,196	1,209	1,213
Calves	492	485	491	462	475	311	340	292	326
Hogs	197	204	211	216	213	259	263	259	262
Sheep & Lambs	106	90	88	103	97	135	135	135	137
	Million pounds					Million pounds			
Red meat	1.3	1.5	1.3	8.2	7.5	3,603	3,878	18,812	18,934

LOUISIANA GRAIN STOCKS

Total off-farm **soybean** stocks were estimated at 4.42 million bushels, down 14 percent from a year ago.

Total off-farm **sorghum** stocks were estimated at 965 thousand bushels compared to 2.70 million bushels from last year.

Off-farm holdings of **corn** totaled 8.21 million bushels, down 37 percent from 1999.

All wheat off-farm stocks totaled 2.16 million bushels, down 69 percent from a year ago. #

JUNE 1, 2000 GRAIN STOCKS

ITEM	LOUISIANA		UNITED STATES	
	June 1		June 1	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Thousand Bushels		Thousand Bushels	
Barley				
On Farm	1/	1/	52,000	25,400
Off Farm 2/	1/	1/	<u>89,653</u>	<u>86,326</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	141,653	111,726
Corn				
On Farm	1/	1/	2,257,000	2,029,800
Off Farm 2/	<u>12,945</u>	<u>8,207</u>	<u>1,359,225</u>	<u>1,557,112</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	3,616,225	3,586,912
Oats				
On Farm	1/	1/	40,700	36,000
Off Farm 2/	1/	1/	<u>40,678</u>	<u>40,027</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	81,378	76,027
Sorghum				
On Farm	1/	1/	27,400	27,300
Off Farm 2/	<u>2,699</u>	<u>965</u>	<u>88,680</u>	<u>99,682</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	116,080	126,982
Soybeans				
On Farm	1/	1/	458,000	370,000
Off Farm 2/	<u>5,164</u>	<u>4,419</u>	<u>390,573</u>	<u>404,996</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	848,573	774,996
All Wheat				
On Farm	1/	1/	277,710	226,780
Off Farm 2/	<u>7,064</u>	<u>2,160</u>	<u>668,208</u>	<u>723,293</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	945,918	950,073

1/Not published. 2/Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

UNITED STATES GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2000, totaled 3.59 billion bushels, down 1 percent from June 1, 1999. Of the total stocks, 2.03 billion bushels were stored on farms, down 10 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.56 billion bushels, were up 15 percent from a year ago. The March - May 2000 quarter indicated disappearance is 2.02 billion bushels, 3 percent below the disappearance of 2.08 billion bushels during the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2000 totaled 950 million bushels, up slightly from a year ago. This is the largest June 1 stocks level since the 1987-88 market year. On-farm stocks are estimated at 227 million bushels, down 18 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 723 million bushels, are up 8 percent from a year ago. The indicated March - May 2000 quarter disappearance is 465 million bushels, down 8 percent from the same period in 1999.

Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2000, totaled 775 million bushels, down 9 percent from June 1, 1999. On-farm stocks, at 370 million bushels, were down 19 percent from the same period a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 405 million bushels, were 4 percent higher than June 1, 1999. Indicated disappearance for the March - May 2000 quarter totaled 621 million bushels, up 2 percent from the same quarter in 1999.

Barley stocks in all positions on June 1, 2000 are estimated at 112 million bushels, 21 percent below last year. On-farm stocks are 25.4 million bushels, 52 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks are 86.3 million bushels, only 4 percent below 1999. Indicated disappearance during the March - May 2000 quarter totaled 58.5 million bushels, unchanged from the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions on June 1, 2000, totaled 76.0 million bushels, 7 percent below the stocks on June 1, 1999, estimate. Of the total stocks on hand, 36.0 million bushels were stored on farm, 12 percent less than this time last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 40.0 million bushels, 2 percent lower than a year earlier. Indicated disappearance during the March - May 2000 quarter totaled 26.4 million bushels, 15 percent less than the same period a year ago.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on June 1, 2000, totaled 127.0 million bushels, up 9 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 99.7 million bushels, are up 12 percent from last year, and account for 79 percent of the total stocks. On-farm stocks, at 27.3 million bushels, are down less than 1 percent from last year. The March - May 2000 quarter disappearance from all positions is 98.7 million bushels, down 8 percent from last year.

LOUISIANA CROP ACREAGE

Rice, sorghum and soybean acreage in Louisiana will decrease from last year according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Conversely, cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, and sugarcane acreage will increase from 1999.

Corn acreage, at 350,000 acres, is up 10,000 acres from 1999, but down 50,000 acres from the March 1 estimate. Harvested corn acreage set at 340,000, up 3 percent from 1999.

Cotton acreage is expected to increase to 740,000 acres, up 125,000 acres from last year and up 50,000 acres from the March 1 estimate.

Rice acreage, at 540,000 acres, is down 80,000 acres from 1999, and down 30,000 acres from the March 1 intentions. Of this total, long grain varieties will represent 520,000 acres or 96 percent, while medium grain varieties will represent the remaining 20,000 acres or 4 percent. Harvested acres were estimated at 535,000 acres, with 515,000 acres going to long grain varieties and 20,000 acres going to medium grain varieties.

Grain sorghum acreage, at 210,000 acres, is down 30,000 acres from 1999, but up 20,000 acres from the March 1 estimate. Harvested acreage was set at 205,000 acres.

Soybean acreage is expected to total 930,000 acres, 90,000 fewer acres than last year, and down 20,000 acres from the March 1 estimate. If realized, this will be the lowest acreage in the state in 34 years. Soybean harvested acres were estimated at 900,000, 90,000 acres less than in 1999.

Sweetpotato acreage is expected to total 25,000, up 1,000 acres from last year, and unchanged from the March 1 estimate. If realized, this will be the highest acreage since 1983 when 25,000 acres were planted. This acreage also ranks Louisiana as number two in the nation on planted acreage. Twenty-four thousand acres are estimated to be harvested.

Winter Wheat producers planted an estimated 150,000 acres in the fall of 1999. This is up 40,000 acres from the previous year, and 40,000 acres higher than the March 1 estimate. Harvested acreage was set at 140,000 acres, up 35,000 acres from 1999.

Hay harvested acres are projected at 330,000, down 50,000 acres from last year, and down 60,000 acres from the March 1 intentions.

Sugarcane acreage for harvest is estimated at 450,000, up 25,000 acres from last year. If realized, this will be the highest acreage ever recorded in the State. Louisiana is ranked number one in the nation for sugarcane harvested acreage.#

UNITED STATES CROP ACREAGE

Corn for grain: The planted area for corn for all purposes is estimated at 79.6 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 73.1 million acres for grain, up 4 percent from 1999. The corn acreage estimate was based on survey information collected between May 30 and June 19. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 99 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview compared to an average of 96 percent for the past ten years.

All Cotton: Plantings for 2000 are expected to total 15.6 million acres, 5 percent above last year. Upland cotton acreage is expected to total 15.4 million acres, up 5 percent from 1999. Growers planted 202,000 acres of **American-Pima** cotton, down 30 percent from 1999. Some acreage was prevented from being planted in the Southeast due to severe drought conditions. Conversely, Arkansas farmers were frustrated by rains during their optimum planting window and thus were not able to plant all of the acreage originally intended for cotton.

Hay: Producers expect to harvest 62.2 million acres of hay in 2000, down 2 percent from the 63.2 million acres harvested the previous year. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are estimated at 23.8 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. All other hay is estimated at 38.4 million acres, down 2 percent from last year.

Soybean: The 2000 planted area for soybeans is estimated at 74.5 million acres, 1 percent above last year's acreage. Area for harvest is estimated at 73.5 million acres, up 1 percent from 1999. If realized, this will be the largest planted and harvested acreage on record. Planted acreage has consistently increased every year since 1990 when the soybean planted area totaled 57.8 million acres. Of the 31 soybean estimating states, growers in 16 states increased acreage, while growers in 14 states reduced area planted. West Virginia acreage estimates are included for the first time.

Winter Wheat: Area harvested for grain is now expected to total 35.4 million acres, up 2 percent from the June 1 forecast, but down less than 1 percent from the 1999 acreage for grain. This is the smallest area for grain since 1972. Planted area is slightly above the previous estimate, but still down fractionally from 1999.

JUNE 1, 2000 ACREAGE REPORT

CROP	LOUISIANA				UNITED STATES			
	Planted		Harvested		Planted		Harvested	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Thousand acres				Thousand acres			
Corn 1/	340	350	330	340	77,431	79,579	70,537	73,088
Cotton, Upland	615	740	610	2/	14,584	15,350	13,138	2/
Hay, All	-	-	380	330	-	-	63,160	62,181
Rice: Long	585	520	581	515	2,751	2,420	2,738	2,399
Medium	35	20	35	20	768	817	762	813
Short	-	-	-	-	62	33	62	33
All	620	540	616	535	3,581	3,270	3,562	3,245
Sorghum 1/	240	210	235	205	9,288	8,805	8,544	8,110
Soybeans	1,020	930	990	900	73,780	74,501	72,476	73,474
Sugarcane	-	-	465	490	-	-	993.3	1,020.4
Sweet Potatoes	24	25	23	24	93.8	96.1	83.1	93.3
Wheat, Winter	110	150	105	140	43,431	43,349	35,572	35,401

1/Harvested acreage is for grain only. 2/Estimates to be released August 11, 2000.

Rice: Area planted to rice in 2000 is estimated at 3.27 million acres, 9 percent below 1999, and 2 percent less than 1998's planted area. Area for harvested is estimated at 3.25 million acres, 9 percent below a year ago. Long grain planted acreage, representing 74 percent of the total, is down 12 percent from last year. Medium grain planted acreage increased 6 percent above 1999, while area planted to short grain varieties decreased 47 percent. Rice planting got off to an early start in California, Louisiana, and Texas, while in Arkansas and Mississippi began behind normal. As of June 25, some early fields began to head ahead of normal in Louisiana and Texas.

Sorghum: The 2000 planted area for sorghum is estimated at 8.81 million acres for all purposes. This is down 5 percent from 1999, and represents the lowest acreage planted on record. Of the 24 states that estimate sorghum acreage, 10 states indicate decreases, 2 states indicated increases, while 6 states indicated no change. Texas, with 2.90 million acres, has the largest reduction of all states, decreasing by 250 thousand acres, or 8 percent. Acreage expected for grain harvest in 2000, at 8.11 million acres is down 5 percent from the 1999 grain acreage and is the lowest grain acreage since 1953.

Sugarcane: U. S. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest a record high 1.02 million acres for sugar and seed during the 2000 crop year, 3 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. The record high is due to a 25,000 acre expansion in Louisiana, where the use of a new high-yielding, high-sugar variety continues to increase.

Sweetpotatoes: Planted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 96,100 acres in the United States this year, up 2 percent from last year and 10 percent above 1998. This is the highest planted acreage of sweet potatoes since 1985. Increases from last year were noted in Louisiana, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Harvest is forecast at 93,300 acres, a gain of 12 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES PRICES INDEX DOWN 2 POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in June was 99 based on 1990-92= 100, down 2.0 percent from May index. Lower prices for lettuce, corn, cattle, soybeans, and broccoli more than offset price increases for eggs, strawberries, milk, and celery. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of wheat, grapes, hay, and cantaloupes more than offset the relatively lower marketings of oranges, tomatoes, strawberries, and cattle. These marketing changes kept the index from falling one more point. Compared with June 1999, the All Farm Products Index was 2.1 percent higher. Price increases from June 1999 for hogs, cattle, lettuce, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for milk, oranges, corn, and broilers.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The June Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 120 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from May, but 4.3 percent above June 1999. Lower prices in June for feed grains, feeder pigs, hay and forages, and LP gas were offset by higher prices for feeder cattle, herbicides, feed concentrates, and complete feeds.

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AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

ITEM	LOUISIANA			UNITED STATES		
	ENTIRE MONTH		PRELIMINARY	ENTIRE MONTH		PRELIMINARY
	June 1999	May 2000	June 2000 1/	June 1999	May 2000	June 2000 1/
	Dollars			Dollars		
Soybeans, per bushel	4.45	5.27	4.86	4.44	5.19	4.91
Rice, per cwt	7.49	5.58	5.37	8.25	5.56	5.61
Upland Cotton, per pound	.553	.470	2/ .436	.546	.473	2/ .481
Hay, all, baled, per ton 1/	N/A	N/A	N/A	81.70	89.40	82.50
Beef Cattle, per cwt	45.90	51.00	51.60	63.70	69.40	67.90
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	71.70	81.00	82.00	66.70	73.20	71.30
Cows, per cwt	34.30	37.50	38.00	36.70	38.90	39.20
Calves, per cwt	84.10	98.70	96.00	89.00	107.00	103.00
Broilers, live, per pound	N/A	N/A	N/A	.387	.370	.370
Eggs All, per dozen	N/A	N/A	N/A	.571	.520	.629
All Milk, per cwt 3/	14.70	4/	4/	13.10	12.00	12.20

1/Mid-month price. 2/Based on sales during the first half of the month. 3/Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 4/Monthly estimates discontinued January 2000. N/A = Not Available

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